

March 15th.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Fifty members present.

The following were presented for publication in the Proceedings :

Notes on Coluber calligaster Say, and description of new species of Serpents in the collection of the North-western University of Evanston, Ill. By R. Kennicott.

Ichthyological Notices. By Charles Girard, M. D.

And were referred to Committees.

The Proceedings of the Academy for February was laid on the table by the Committee.

Mr. Foulke announced the death, at Rome, on the 13th ult., of Charles F. Beck, M. D., late a member of the Academy.

March 22d.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Forty-four members present.

The following was presented for publication in the Proceedings :

Catalogue of Birds collected on the rivers Camma and Ogobai, Western Africa by Mr. P. Duhaillu, in 1853, with notes and descriptions of new species. By John Cassin.

And was referred to a Committee.

Dr. Leidy called the attention of the members to the tooth of the *Mastodon*, from Tambla, Honduras, presented by Capt. J. M. Dow, this evening. It is a last superior molar, and presents a greater degree of developement of the intervening accessory lobes of the crown than is usual in the teeth of *Mastodon ohioiticus*, but it nevertheless most probably belongs to the same species.

Dr. L. then directed attention to the fine collection of teeth and fragments of jaws of *Mosasaurus*, from the Green Sand of Monmouth Co., New Jersey, presented by Mr. J. H. Slack, and other gentlemen through him. The specimens illustrate, in a striking manner, the mode of development and succession of the teeth, noticed some time since in the Proceedings, (1857, p. 176). The specimens further exhibit variations in form and size, though obtained from the same individual. The teeth, with conical crowns and polyhedral sides, are those usually viewed as characteristic of *Mosasaurus*. Others had been referred to the genus *Geosaurus*; and such as were much compressed with trencant borders, and without planes, were viewed as characteristic of the genus *Leiodon*.

The large humerus, presented by Mr. M. P. Rue, through Mr. Slack, was not found in the same marl pit as the *Mosasaurus*, though in the same formation not far distant. It bears a strong resemblance in form and size to the corresponding bone of *Hadrosaurus*, though presenting sufficient anatomical difference to belong to another genus. It perhaps belongs to *Mosasaurus*; the bones of the extremities of this animal yet remaining unknown.

Dr. L. added he was inclined to suspect that all the remains of *Mosasaurus* hitherto discovered in America belonged to one species, at least there appears insufficient evidence to separate them. Perhaps, however, the remains of the *Mosasaurus*, discovered in the green sand of the western portion of the continent, may indicate a different species from those obtained from the eastern portion.

1859.]

Synonymy of the American Mosasaurus,

1. FROM THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE CONTINENT.

Saurian, resembling the reptile of Maestricht. Mitchell: Obs. Geol. N. Am. 1818, 384, pl. viii. fig. 4.

Mosasaurus. Dekay: Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist. N. Y. 1828—36, iii. 135. Morton: Am. Jour. Sci. 1830, xviii. 246; Syn. Org. Rem. 1834, 27. Harlan: Trans. Geol. Soc. 1835, 81; Med. Phys. Res. 1835, 285. Emmons: N. Car. Geol. Surv. 1858, 217.

Geosaurus Mitchellii. Dekay: Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist. 1828—36, iii. 138. Harlan: Trans. Geol. Soc. 1835, 82; Med. Phys. Res. 1835, 285; Edinb. Phil. Jour. 1834, xviii. 32. Pictet: Palæont. 1853, i. 506.

Geosaurus. Morton: Am. Jour. Sci. 1830, xviii. 246, Syn. Org. Rem. 1834, 23.

Saurian reptile, or Maestricht monitor. Harlan: Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. 1825, 235; Trans. Geol. Soc. 1835, 81; Med. Phys. Res. 285, 384.

Mosasaurus Dekayi. Bronn: Leth. Geog. 1838, ii. 760. Gibbes: Smiths. Contrib. 1858, 8. Pictet: Palæont. 1853, i. 505.

Mosasaurus occidentalis. Morton: Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. 1844, 133.

Mosasaurus Camperi or *M. Hofmani.* In part of Pictet: Palæont. 1845, ii. 64.

Atlantochelys Mortoni. Agassiz: Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. 1849, 169.

Mosasaurus minor; *M. Couperi*; and *M. carolinensis.* Gibbes: Smiths. Contrib. 1850.

Mosasaurus Maximiliani. Pictet, in part: Palæont. 1853, i. 505. Emmons: N. Car. Geol. Surv. 1858, 217.

Mosasaurus Mitchellii. The name which according to usage should be adopted, if the eastern is a distinct species from the western one.

2. FROM THE WESTERN PORTION OF THE CONTINENT.

Ichthyosaurus missouriensis. Harlan: Trans. Am. Phil. Soc. 1834, 405; Tr. Geol. Soc. 1835, 80; Med. Phys. Res. 1835, 284, 344.

Batrachiosaurus. Harlan: Lond. Edinb. Phil. Mag. 1839, xiv. 302.

Batrachotherium. Harlan: Bul. Soc. Geol. 1839, x. 90.

Batrachiosaurus missouriensis. Von Meyer: Jahrb. Min. 1845, 313.

Mosasaurus Neovidi. Von Meyer: Jahrb. Min. 1845, 312. Pictet: Palæont. 1853, i. 505.

Mosasaurus Maximiliani. Goldfuss: Nov. Act. Acad. Leop. Nat. Cur. 1845, xxi. 179; Jahrb. Min. 1847, 122. In part of Pictet: Palæont. 1853, i. 505.

Mosasaurus missouriensis. Leidy: Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. 1857, 90. This name, according to usage, is the one to be adopted for the western species, if distinct from the eastern one.

Dr. Bridges announced the decease, at Charleston, S. C., on the 16th inst., of Dr. Thos. D. Mütter, late a member of the Academy. Dr. Mütter was elected in 1833, and at one time held the office of Recording Secretary of the Academy.

On leave granted, a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. M. P. Rue, of Perrinesville, N. Jersey, for the valuable donation of fossils presented by him this evening.

[March,